

**CARLISLE COUNCIL ON AGING BOARD MEETING
CARLISLE TOWN HALL - CLARK ROOM
APRIL 26, 2016**

Donna MacMullan, COA Vice-Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:30 AM. Board Members Present: Donna MacMullan, Walter Hickman, Elizabeth Acquaviva, Kathy DeVivo-Ash, Reuben Klickstein, Peggy Hilton, Gio DiNicola, Jean Sain. Associate Members Present: Abha Singhal, Jerome Lerman. COA Staff Present: David Klein, Angela Smith. Guest Present: Ann Quenin.

Secretary Report – A Motion was made by Elizabeth Acquaviva to accept the March 15, 2016 Minutes, **as amended**, submitted by Kathy DeVivo-Ash. The motion was seconded and carried by voice vote. David Klein indicated that the House just passed the Formula Grant for FY17 from \$9/senior to \$10/senior and are now working to get the Senate to pass it as well.

Outreach and Program Manager Report – A Motion was made by Elizabeth Acquaviva to accept the March 2016 report submitted by Angela Smith. The motion was seconded and passed by voice vote. Angela gave an update on the status of the Requests section of her report. A topic of discussion was the number of calls Angela receives and how they are tracked. Each year they have been increasing.

Social Worker's Report – The Board reviewed the report submitted by Peter Cullinane, LICSW.

Financial Report/Director's Report – A Motion was made by Peggy Hilton to accept the reports submitted by David Klein. The motion was seconded and carried by voice vote. David discussed how the Financial Report for March doesn't look as though it changed much from the prior month, but that is due to the receipt of two LRTA payments (for January and February). David also discussed the Town Warrant Article 6 Department Revolving Funds Authorization (pg. 9) COA spending limit of \$30,000. David is requesting the increase from last year's \$25,000 level due to the natural inflationary increase in the volume and cost of our programs. Four years ago the Revolving Fund limit was less than \$15,000. David discussed the MCOA Meeting on April 15 specifically regarding the presentations by Betsy Crimmins on tenant/landlord law and Shirley Chow and Christina Peretti on Great Boston Food Banks "Commodity Food" Program. David and Angela discussed what the criteria for eligibility would be (one is 60 years or older and another is financially struggling) and how the free food would be delivered. The size and composition of the commodity food supplies for seniors was also discussed. Angela is trying to identify approximately 6 seniors who may qualify and benefit from the program. The closest local program outlet is in Billerica. On another topic, David indicated that the Minuteman Area COA Directors generally have at least two Regional Representatives to the MCOA and he was recently approached to become a Regional Rep since the two existing reps in the Minuteman Group are moving up to the full MCOA Board. David is Co-Chair of the Senior Tax Advisory Task Force and discovered recently that he is welcome to attend Regional meetings. However, the Regional Rep is a commitment he would be making vs. an option. David is still deciding whether to accept the appointment due to the time commitment. However, he does find the meetings to have valuable information that is helpful to Carlisle. Also discussed from David's report was the FinCom proposed COA General Fund budget increase to \$203,047 (this figure is inclusive of the subtraction of \$30,000 from what is classified as LRTA Rebates). Hopefully the LRTA rebates continue. If not, the amount would need to be added back to the COA budget. The budget also includes proposed wage changes and a 2% cost of living increase. This budget will be voted on at the upcoming Town Meeting. Also discussed was a letter to CHNA regarding the COA's support of the Carlisle Board of Health's application for the Healthy Communities Planning Grant. The topic of

transitioning away from the Transportation Task Force in favor of returning to the regular COA Transportation Committee for future transportation advice will most likely be addressed at their upcoming May meeting. One member of the Task Force, David Freedman, pointed out to David that the Transportation Task Force lacks a current task. David said that he agreed with this point as the Task Force achieved its goal by helping to get the pilot program off the ground. And, it was the COA that the Selectmen, through Town Meeting, chartered to administer the pilot program. Lastly, David discussed the periodic loaning of the COA van (which our certificate of insurance covers) to the Town of Bedford. There are some benefits to doing this, but also other details that need to be reviewed.

MMSS – Jean Sain attended the Minuteman Senior Service Board Meeting on April 6, 2016 and gave the following update: Home Care Programs-There were 75 initial assessments by care managers for seniors requesting home care services this month. Community Programs-SHINE is reaching out to all COAs in pre-planning for open enrollment this year for new types of outreach and new venues for presentations. The Ombudsman Program is currently providing twice weekly visits to Woodbriar Nursing Home in Wilmington as they are currently in jeopardy status with the Department of Public Health due to recent state investigations. Currently they are not allowed to accept any new residents until issues are resolved. Nutrition-March for Meals was a huge success with over 30 Community Champions who delivered meals including Massachusetts who joins leadership staff from area hospitals and state legislators and local officials in raising awareness about senior hunger. March for Meals photos are appearing daily on Facebook and in local print and online media. Outreach/Marketing-By Your Side campaign launches a new package options with updated brochure and webpage. Legislative Advocacy-Joan Butler, MMSS Director, had meetings with Sen. Donnelly and Rep. Benson to review legislative/budgetary priorities for elderly care accounts. Spouse as Caregiver legislation is moving favorably through committees, encouraging our legislators to support this important bill that will help many families in our region. Also, MMSS will come to any COA to give a presentation. Joan is leaving at the end of June and it is soon to be determined who replaces her.

FOCCOA – No representative present. Angela Smith announced their annual meeting is May 15 at 3 pm at Benfield Farms.

Old/New Business:

Space Committee Update: Jerry Lerman gave an update on the March 21 Space Committee Meeting and discussed their site visits to Acton, Westford and Littleton. Jerry indicated that all three towns run successful senior programs, but two of them have physical spaces that present obstacles due to lack of size. Jerry indicated that they are pre-existing spaces that have been repurposed. The committee also visited the Goff property on Bedford road as they consider the feasibility of building a community center. A road would have to be built to access the property.

Long Range Planning – The LRP Committee will discuss in June.

A Motion to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 11:50 AM

Next COA Board Meeting May 24 at 7:10 PM-Town Hall Heald Room

Elizabeth Acquaviva
COA Co-Secretary